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WARNING AGAINST A FRAUD.

A man, calling himself F. E. Taylor and other aliases, is traveling about in the gas belt, representing himself as a general agent of the Journal and collecting money for subscriptions from unsuspecting persons. He is a fraud and unworthy of any confidence. The description given of him is that he is about five feet four inches in height, weighs about 135 pounds, is smooth shaven, except a close-cropped, gray mustache, wears a warned not to pay money for the Journal The only traveling agent the authorized to collect Mr. William Smith King, and he carries credentials that are unmistakable.

The Sultan has no Monroe doctrine to draw upon, but he manages to defy the powers quite successfully

The moral responsibility for the bloody massacres of Armenians rests on th Christian powers of Europe, and chiefly on England

Thrice fortunate the American Conwhose views call forth the disapproval of the mugwump and the London press.

years ago a certain class of to Canada to avoid the draft. Where would they go in case of a war with England?

One of the Venezuelan boundary commissioners parts his hair in the middle and another wears very pronounced mutton-chop whiskers, but they are able men, for all that.

The mugwump of the Brahmin type has ceased to regard the President as the most remarkable personality since Abraham Lincoln. Still, Mr. Cleveland is a very remarkable man

The United States might suspend the Monroe doctrine long enough to join with the other nations in a court to put Great Britain under bonds to cease meddling and land grabbing.

Great Britain's offer to arbitrate the between the British malcontents in the Transvaal republic and the government may be classed among the humors of the campaign.

If Senator Voorhees were wise he mossback Democracy in Indiana and represent the progressive element of the party in the State who sound money; but he never

A Cleveland organ says that foreign bankers seem to know more about the proposed loan than do the home bankers. This is undoubtedly true. This admir istration is running the government in the interest of Europe.

Several Republican papers cannot see how the Republicans in the Senate have gained much by getting control of the organization through Populist passiveness. The Journal is of that number. It hopes it is mistaken.

If the British commissioner who invaded the Boer territory had not detelegraph communication be he could have been overtaken arresting his movement. As it is he has been defeated and probably severely

The annual statement of dividends the Fall River, Mass., mills shows that thirty-eight mills, with a capitalization of \$21,268,000, paid dividends amounting to \$1,721,425, an average of 8 9-100 per cent. Considering the sums invested and the risks of business, this is not an excessive profit.

It is not often that a government is the humiliating position of having to disavow and apologize for the rash action of a high official, as England is having to do now for the invasion of the Transvaal republic. To see her eating humble pie is calculated to

add to the gayety of the nations. When the bonds which the President will issue shall be paid they will be paid in gold as the money of large accounts and of commerce. It these bonds could have been issued as gold bonds the country would save \$50,-000,000 or thereabouts, which is a large price to pay for the silver nonsense in

one transaction.

It is not true, as the Brooklyn Eagle asserts, that the Republicans have control of the Senate organization by making a deal with the Populists. When was taken the Republicans were forty and the Democrats thirtyeight, while the Populists did not vote even to save power to their allies of the silver Democracy, who are two-thirds of the Democratic Senators

According to the Boston Journal the

authorities, and was finally employed to run the line which is now the basis of the British claim against Venezuela. This service won him his title. But for the burning of the Richmond tobacco factory in 1828 "Sir" Robert might have lived and died an American citizen, and his ghost would not now be figuring in an international controversy.

A LAMENTABLE MISFIT.

Unaccountable as are some of the

President's recent acts, the statement of

a Washington correspondent that he will send to Congress another panicky message before he closes the bond contract is simply incredible. The fact that he issued the first message while he was yet negotiating for a second loan, and that it was quite well known when the House passed a 3-per-cent, bond bill that he had ignored that body by preparing for another large 4-per-cent. loan, proves that he proposes to ride rough-shod over Congress if it will not do his bidding, When the last Congress met a majority of both branches would have supported him in any fair measure. The House, many Democrats voting against their judgments and the protests of stituents, passed Mr. Cleveland's tariff bill. It was an infinitely worse measure than the present law, and instead of an annual deficit of \$40,000,000 there would have been one of \$100,000,000 under the Cleveland House bill. Still, the President insisted that the Senate should pass his bill, making a frivolous opposition ause duties were retained on coal by one or two most remarkable letters, he assailed the majority of his party in the Senate, and finally permitted the tariff bill, for which nearly every Democrat in both branches voted, to become law without his signature. By his dom ineering policy and by offending party men who called upon him Mr. Cleveland destroyed his influence in the Senate and exercised little in the House during the last session.

He has begun the same way with the present House. There is no policy but his which can be tolerated. If Congress does not issue bonds to retire the greenbacks, as he so offensively directs, he will ignore that body and make it utterly useless to pass a 3-per-cent, bond bill by issuing twice as many 4-per-cents. as are necessary in any event, unless h intends to continue to make good the treasury deficit in that manner. There are those who believe that he will not veto the House revenue bill should it become law, but those who have watched the President and fully realize his headstrong and vindictive nature do not ye

indulge such a hope. But the point which is fairly made against the President now is that h has defeated a bill which has passed one branch and is yet before the other by injecting a contract for the issue of bonds which would make the long-time 3-per-cent, bond feature of the bill of no account, and render quite unnecessary, through the process of the "endless chain," that portion of the bill designed to afford the treasury prompt relief by the issue of short-time treasury certifi-

The misfortune of the President is that there is in his make-up no conciliation no spirit of concession and no recognition of the possibility of merit in any other plan except his own. He would be admirable as a ruler of Russia, and more impressive than the young Emperor of Germany if he were in the place of that scien of divine right. But he has no place in any form of government where the one-man rule is not admitted. since, when he cannot have his way, he proceeds to remind the country of a mad bull in a china shop.

THE VENEZUELAN COMMISSION.

The United States Venezuelan commission is likely to assume more international importance than foreign governments, notably the British, were disposed to accord it. The prompt action of Congress in providing for the commission gave weight to the President's recommendation, and the high character of the men appointed will at once command the respect of other governments The personnel of the commission is all that could be desired, combining in an eminent degree all the qualifications that should pertain to such a body. Its investigation will be the first impartial and by far the most exhaustive one that has ever been made of the matters in dispute between England and Vene zuela, and while its report will not be legally binding on either of the disputants nor even conclusive on the United States, it will have great weight

in the judgment of the civilized world. It should not be assumed in advance that the report of the commission wil be decidedly against the British claim That would be begging the question and clothing the commission with prejudice. Its duty will be to "hew to the line, let the chips fall where they may." If it finds that the facts support the British claim it will, of course, so report, though the Journal believes the facts will require a very different report. Whatever it may be, it will command the respect of the American people and probably determine the future action of the govern-

SENATOR SHERMAN'S RESOLUTION. To-day Senator Sherman will speak on his resolution introduced a few days ago. The text of the resolution is as

follows: Resolved. That by injurious legislation I he Fifty-third Congress, the revenues the government were reduced below its necessary expenditures, and the fund created by law for the redemption of United tates notes has been invaded to supply such deficiencies of reserve; that such dication of the resumption fund is o outtful legality and is greatly injurious to the public credit, and should be p vented by restoring said fund to the sum of not less than \$100,000,000 in gold coin or on (to be segregated from all other unds), to be paid out only in the redemp-ion of United States notes, and such notes hange for gold coin and bullion.

The country regards with interest any comes from Senator Sherman. The

resident of that city and later of Rich- shall be "paid out only in the redemp- proprieties can be pardoned. mond, Va. He came to Boston from | tion of United States notes and treasury Germany in 1822 at the age of eighteen, notes, and such notes, when redeemed, and was employed several years as clerk | to be reissued only in exchange for gold in a shipping house. He afterwards ccin and bullion." Some persons who al- cial allows itself to be made the vehicle drifted to Richmond and became a part- | ways misconstrue or misrepresent Sena- | for a very unjust attack on Hon. R. J. ner in a tobacco factory. The destruc- tor Sherman on financial questions think | Tracewell, Representative in Congress tion of the factory by fire in 1828 had | they see in this a covert attempt to re- from the Third Indiana district. The remote international consequences, for tire the greenbacks. This is not the pretext for the attack is Mr. Tracewell's it set Schomburg adrift again, and he case. It is an attempt to restore the absence from Washington when the new drifted to South America, where he suc- | gold redemption fund to its original and | tariff and bond bills were passed. After ceeded in gaining the favor of the British | legitimate use and stop the practice of | commenting on the importance of the using it to supply deficits and meet cur- measures and the general desire among rent expenditures. Under this resolu- Republicans that they should be prompttion the gold reserve would cease to be ly passed, the Commercial says: available for an illegitimate and dangerous purpose, and treasury notes, once redeemed, instead of being paid out for current expenses, would have to be held by the Secretary of the Treasury until gold was offered in exchange for them. In other words, it would stop the "endless chain," tie Secretary Carlisle's hands against using redeemed greenbacks as revenue and materially reinforce existing measures for maintaining the public credit.

LARGE AND SMALL ESTATES.

The Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics devotes a report just issued to the results of an investigation designed to show whether or not it is true that the rich are growing richer and the poor poorer, as a class of writers and speak ers assert. To do this the chief has had recourse to the Probate Court records in the respective counties. These data are important because all estates, great or small, must go through the probate courts. To ascertain if large estates are increasing in number and amounts, and if small ones are lessening in number and value, as would be the case if it were true that the rich were becoming richer and the poor poorer, a comparison of estates in several counties passing through the probate courts is made for four periods of two years-1829-31, 1859-61. 1879-81 and 1889-91. The estates valued at over \$500,000 were but two in the first period, six in the second, twentynine in the third and thirty in the fourth indicating that the great increase in number was in the two decades following 1861, there being an increase of but one in the two years ending with 1891 It also appears that the average value of these estates in 1859-61 was \$848,210 and of those in 1879-81 \$1,144,758, but in the last period the average value of the estates fell to \$794,729. Thus it appears that the larger estates have fallen off in their average value since both the pre-

The statistics concerning the smaller estates are also significant. In 1829-31 3,698 estates went through the probate courts with an average valuation \$3,919. In 1879-81 the number was 11,142, and the average value was \$12,328; in 1889-91 the number was 14,608, and the average value \$10,649. In these counties the population increased from 610,-408 in the first period to 2,238,943 in the last, while the number of estates increased from 3,698 to 14,142, showing that estates have increased more rapidly than population. Of these estates 1,431 were valued at less than \$500 in the first period, with an average value of \$186. The number in the last period was 2,217, with an average value of \$247. The most significant fact about these figures is that between the period 1879-81 and the period 1889-91 the number of estates increased from 11,142 to 14,608, while the value fell from \$12,328 to \$10,649. This means that the smaller estates so rapidly increased in number as to reduce the

In summing up, the chief who has collected these statistics comes to the conclusion that in a given thousand of people in Massachusetts to-day there are more persons possessed of moderate and fair sized estates than ever before, and that the average size of these estates is more than double what it was in 1829-31. On the other hand, while there are many more holders of large estates in proportion to the population now than in 1829-31, the average of these large holdings is but little, if any, larger than in the first named period. That is, the rich are not growing richer, but people are acquiring small estates, which refutes the claim of the calamityites.

CONDITION OF WINDOW-GLASS PRO-DUCTION.

The window glass manufacturers will shut down for a time, it is reported, to prevent bankruptcy overtaking some of them, as would be the case if production were continued unless wages should be reduced to what may be called the starvation point in this country. To continue would fill warehouses with a supply in excess of current demand, and the result would be a depression of prices which would be ruinous to employer and disastrous to employe.

The situation is not what any one could wish. It is unfavorable for those who have capital invested and worse for those whose capital is skilled labor, which must be sold every day for the comforts of life or be lost. Both are in the same boat, yet it is worse for the employe than the employer. The situation may bankrupt the one, but it loses the other the opportunity to earn bread. Probably under the improved methods of production more window glass can be manufactured in this country than there is a demand for. Inadequate prices is the result; not the alleged appreciation of gold, as the economists told us last week. But beyond the possible overproduction at home is another evil-the importation of the window glass made by the half-paid labor of Belgium-half paid compared with the wages paid the same labor in this country. If the American market for glass had not been made easier to foreign competitors it is not probable that it would now be so glutted that the factories must be closed.

There has been an expression of criticism in certain quarters because window glass manufacturers have combined to maintain a list of prices which will afford a profit and a fair scale of wages. It is called a "combine"-a trust-and is denounced as a conspiracy to keep up prices. It strikes many people that this is very wicked; but when they consider that glass was never so low and of so good a quality as at the present time, the more they consider the matter in all its bearings the less inclined they will be to regard it as the one appalling iniquity of the last decade of the nineteenth cen-

And it may be added that the condi-

figures so conspicuously in the British- one which provides that the gold re- petition and low wages. For the main-Venezuelan dispute was at one time a serve, when once restored to \$100,000,000, tenance of fair wages some seeming im

AN UNJUST ATTACK. The usually fair Louisville Commer-

It would naturally be supposed that Mr Tracewell voted with his party to pass these bills, and it will surprise his stituents to know that upon these questions of vital importance he did not vote at all. If present he must have been in a condition of mental chaos, for he was evidently unable to focus his opinion upon any co clusion. If absent, unless under the mand of some threatened or existing do mestic affliction or absolute physical disability, his action is wholly without excuse The measures were the base upon which depended important results for the country and the party, and every Republican member should have been present and recorded his vote, so as to give to the part; action the force of a unanimous voice. has made a serious mistake, which will be hard to explain or rectify He has publicly stated his ability and disposition to draw his salary with unquestioned regularity. It will be well if he exercises the same ability and disposition to earn it by prompt and worthy atten-tion to the discharge of his public duties.

If the writer of this article knew the facts in the case he suppressed them. Mr. Tracewell had left Washington for his home before the President's emergency message was sent in, and when it was expected the usual holiday adjournment would occur. When he was notified of the change of programme he wired Representative Henry asking if his presence was necessary, and that if it was he would return. Mr. Henry, knowing that Mr. Tracewell had important business at home, and that his absence would not endanger the bills, wired back that his presence was not absolutely necessary, and the final vote showed it was not. The insinuation that Mr. Tracewell deserted his post of duty in the presence of a public emergency or that he dodged a vote is so mean and malicious that it seems to argue a personal motive on the part of the writer of the Commercial article. The Republicans of the Third district will hardly thank it for this cowardly attempt to stab their Representative in the back.

The case of F. G. Lenz, the Pittsburg wheelman who was waylaid and murdered in Turkey some months ago, likely to be added to the list of un atoned-for outrages against American citizens in that country. An attempt by Lenz's friends to bring his murderers to justice has resulted very similarly to one made by two American citizens to ob tain reparation for outrages from the Turkish government while General Lew Wallace was minister to Turkey. that case the Turkish authorities openly connived at the escape of the perpetrators of the outrage, and, while giving every assurance that justice should be done, secretly exerted themselves to se that it should not be. In the case of Lenz the same assurances have been given, and yet one after another the persons under arrest for his murder have been permitted to escape, until now there is no longer any hope that they will be punished. As likely as not they will be honored and rewarded by the Sultan as other murderers of American citizens have been. The Secretary of State should amend his claim for damages against Turkey by demanding money indemnity and other reparation for the murder of Lenz, and should accompany the demand with an ultimatum that, if not complied with by a certain time, Constantinople will be bombarded. It is time the long-standing account of unatoned for outrages against American citizens in Turkey should be settled.

It is said that the committee of th Senate appointed to consider what dis position could be made of convict labor will report, among other things, in favo of the establishment of a reformatory to which will be sent the younger convicts whom it may be possible to save The details are not given, but it would seem that the two prisons are sufficient and that one of them might be made reformatory and the other a penitentiary for the reconvicts.

If the Senators from the silver States are so foolish as to think that they can help their 50-cent dollar project by tacking it upon "even the Ten Commandments," as the loquacious Senator Dubois is reported as declaring, they will find when it is too late that they have made a great blunder. That sort of rule by a small minority is a bulldozing method which will set the American people very much against those who un-

If there is basis for the report that the republic of Brazil will call a meeting of all the diplomatic representatives of South America at an early day to consider means of common defense against European aggression it is very significant and wise movement. I all of the South and Central American republics were united to stand by each other against foreign aggressions there would be no interference by outsiders.

It is said a pamphlet copy of Embassador Bayard's speech in which he de nounced protection and deplored its demoralizing effects on American life found its way into a Cabinet meeting, and that the President and his Cabinet agreed that no fault could be found with anything he said in the speech. From their point of view certainly not.

A picture of Paul Kruger, President of the Transvaal republic, shows him a rustic looking person with a Dutch face and clad in old-fashioned garments with pantaloons bagging at the knees But for all that he is a man of decided executive ability and a dangerous an tagonist in a fight, as England already knows by experience.

No nation ever had a finer opportunity to place itself in the front rank and challenge the approval of the civilized world than the United States now has in its dealings with Turkey. It is in position to make demands that no European power dare make and to enforce them with battle ships, and that is what it should do.

What is known as the Cherokee freedman litigation has finally reached a conclusion by which nearly five thousand former slaves get a snug sum of money, a well-known colored citizen of St. Louis a fat per cent. and four lawyers of that city handson fees. When the late civil war began the

Cherokee Indians, occupying a portion the Indian Territory, joined the Confederacy and raised troops for the Southern army. They were slaveholders. When the war closed, slavery being abolished, the Cherokees agreed with the United States to admit their former slaves to Cherokec citizen ship. This they did in a measure, but, later, when the tribe grew rich and began to receive large annuities from the United States, they ignored the freedmen and restricted the distribution of wealth to Cherokees "by blood." In this state of facts Mr. J. Milton Turner, of St. Louis, somewhat noted as a colored politician and orator, went to Washington, and succeeded in getting enacted a bill authorizing the Cherokee freedmen to sue in the Court of Claims for their proportionate share of all Cherokee distributions. Next he made a contract with the freedmen themselves, by which he was to have 10 per cent, of any and all sums they might recover in the Court of Claims. Then he employed four good lawyers of St. Louis to prepare and prosecute the claims, agreeing to give them two-thirds of his 10 per cent. The freedmen won the case in the Court of Claims, and the Cherokees have compromised. Net result: Four thousand nine hundred freedmen get \$295 each; Turner gets \$130,000, and the four lawyers will divide two-thirds of that amount. The best feature of the case is that the Indians, who kept the freedmen out of their rights so long, have been compelled at last to do

It is not quite accurate to say that the police made an important arrest when the diamond stealer was captured. He was caught by other men and turned over to the

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Makes Them Talk.

make people talk."

meet all commerce."

"Timmins says his last novel is bound t

"I guess so. I fancy they would rather talk than read it.' All Comers.

"Now." said the ex-pugilist, as he opened the doors of his new business house for the first time, "now I am again prepared to

The Way of Her. She screamed whene'er he kissed her-It cannot be denied;

She screamed whene'er he kissed her-When he did not she cried.

These Days. Those high resolutions, so fierce and

Now flicker and pale to the hue of a ghost; Already the keeping of that '96 diary. Is becoming a burden, a bore and a roast

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS

the Empress Eugenie are together the spend their spare time doing needle worl Mme. Modjeska expresses an opinion that

Chicago will have the first endowed theater in the United States. She looks upon th endowed theater as the hope of the future in dramatic art. There is a Smith family in Ohio with pe-

culiar names. The father is the Rev. Jeremiah Prophet Elijah Smith. His sons named Most Noble Festus and Sir Walter Scott Bart, and his daughters Juan Fernandez Island and Terra Del Fuego Sarah Orne Jewett lives in an ideally love ly home in Berwick. Me. It is a colonial

house, with old mahogany furnishings, huge tiled fire places, old silver, china and glass and quaint pieces of bric-a-brac, such as seafaring men of long ago used to bring ome from foreign lands W. L. Brown, a Chicago shipbuilder, de clares that in case of war with England the United States could build thirty fully equipped war ships for lake service inside of ten months. In an emergency armored vessels of simple construction could be put

together in ninety days. "On the other hand," he added, "Canada could do prac-tically nothing in the way of armored vessels and would be obliged to get along with Aunt Patty Richardson, widow of Godfrey Richardson, who served in the Conti nental army, died at Bethel, Vt., Sunday night, at the age of ninety-four years. She had been failing for the past ten years, and the end came almost imperceptibly. was Richardson's second wife. Godfrey Richardson received a pension as a minut man at Breed's Hill. The pension was cor

tinued to Mrs. Richardson by a special act

of Congress. She is the last person holding a Revolutionary pension in Vermont. Josiah Flint, who has written a good deal about tramp life for the Century, contrib utes to the Sun an article on the weavers' mountain village of Goldbach in Germany, where everybody is starving to death No tramp, he says, would live as the peo-ple live there; life in trampdom is a paradise compared with it. These weavers are degenerated mentally and physically; their condition "is a blemish on Germany's reputation, and the only possible hope for them is that the children may be got out of the rut in which the parents seem content to

Apropos of the centenary recently cele brated in England is a new story which only serves to throw additional light the domestic relations of Carlyle and his wife. A lady still living in Chelsea, wi knew them both well, and who happened to call at No. 5 Cheyne row, vouches for its authenticity. During one of her visits Carlyle and Jane were both in the dining room. Mrs. Carlyle was rather restless and changed her position severat times. Finalstill." The wife controlled her nervousness and obeyed, but the irritable man was not to be placated, and presently he shouted out again: "Jane, don't breathe so loud, After the last reprimand the caller felt impelled to make a speedy departure.

She feels in spite of all her joys, But little less than lost, For she has some fourteen presents, And knows what seven cost.

-Detroit Tribune 'Tis now, alack! the toothsome chestnu Where'er Jack Frost has laid his chilling

And that, forsooth, a paradox recalls, For on the streets you'll see the chestnu -Philadelphia Record

Protection Against the United States

New York Evening Sun. A Paris newspaper is forward with the useful suggestion that Europe should comine to protect itself collectively against

America. The part of America to be pro tected against means the United States. The protection sought is not martial, but industrial. The tariff policy of the United States would be met by a European tariff policy. That is to say, Europe ought to put up on itself the price not only of foods which it grows itself, but also of the other staple, cotton, which it does grow. There are one or two matters of detail which the publicist appears to have overlooked. For, first, the exclusion of stuff originating in the United States imolies its exclusion when originating in other countres, at least until existing treaties with their favored nation clauses have been evised. Having thus cut off the import from most of the countries to which Europe now sells goods, the manufacturer ther might inquire with some solicitude what he is to do with his product.

Next, having put up on the same man facturer the price of raw material. would seem that the markets of the world were thereby made a gift to the factories of the United States. On the whole, to be feared that the publicist of the Paris Temps had better guess again. As a qualification for doing so he might profitat spend six weeks as shipping clerk in jobber's store, not exactly make himself master of the world's trade relations, but to learn so much of its alphabet as to be able to distinguish B from a bull's foot.

Gold and Coin Bonds.

When you play the game of civilizati the cou ers of civiliza We should have prefere to see the H entatives autorize the issue gold bonds. If this country is going to ask the world to take its bonds it should have nade the bonds payable in the m the world. Coin is a tricky word. wasn't, but it is. It did well enough at me it was first used. It is poor and shifty

A Look Forward. ew York Mail and Express

TO BE OFFERED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE HOUSE BOND MEASURE.

Milver Members of the Senate Finance Committee Confer and Decide to Make a Fight for White Metal.

REPUBLICANS

CHANGES TO BE MADE IN BOTH BOND AND REVENUE BILLS.

McKinley Rates on Wool May Be Restored-Cause of Appearance of Greenbacks in Large Amounts.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.-The Senate finance committee held a brief session today, but no action was taken. The bond bill was discussed, but the tariff bill was not taken up. Senators White, Wolcott and Vest were not present, so that the free silver men and anti-silver men were a tie. It is understood that the intention of the silver men is to report either a free coinage substitute or amendment to the bond bill, probably an amendment.

After the regular meeting of the commit-

tee the Republican members held a conference in the committee room and the Democrats conferred in the district committee room. Senator Jones, of Nevada, went with the Democrats, as the conference was considered a silver conference more than anything else. The silver men unanimously decided to insist on an amendment in the nature of an entire substitute providing for free coinage of silver and the elimination of all authority for the issuance of bonds. Senator Jones, of Arkansas, was delegated to prepare a measure in accordance with these views, to be submitted to a full meeting of the committee as soon as it can be completed. There is hope that the bill can the committee in time to permit reporting to the Senate to-morrow, but this may not be accomplished. The absentees will paired when a vote is reached in committee. The Democratic and silver members con-

cluded their conference before 2 o'clock, but

the Republican and anti-free coinage members continued theirs during the afternoon. It is said that when Queen Victoria and It is quite definitely determined, however, that they will make a minority report. The majority of the Republicans will oppose the reporting of the substitute bill to-morrow but will ask that the report be postponed until Tuesday next. The Republicans probably will suggest a few minor amendments, but they will be directed at the phraseology of the measure. The second section of the bill is considered somewhat ambiguous, and they favor that it be so altered as to restrict the issuance of certificates of indebtedness to \$50,000,000 at one time. Senator Sherman suggested a change in the provision for the retirement of the greenbacks. out the suggestion did not meet with general favor, and it was not insisted on. Republicans in their conference, after the Democrats withdrew, also disc tariff bill at length. They had before them all the amendments which have been offered in the Senate, and devoted themselves especially to considering the feasibility of so amending the bill as to insure its passage. It was suggested that some of the Western Republicans, led by Senator Mitchell, of Oregon, would demand the restoration of the full McKinley duty on wool, and the Senators concluded to investigate the probability of strengthening the measure complying with this demand. They gave like consideration to the known wishes of other Senators, and, without deciding any changes, conclu ded to get all light they could obtain before proceeding to any definite course of action on

> While the silver members of the commit tee have not decided upon the exact phraseology of the substitute which they will present, it is understood that the wording, in a general way, will follow that of the amendment offered by Senator Jones, Arkansas, and the resolution introduced Senator Vest. The first section of the Jones amendment will be so changed as to provide for absolute free and unlimited coinage of silver at 16 to 1. Another provision the substitute will look to the issuance silver certificates on the silver dollars to coined under the first section. The iss ance of bank notes of denominations of less than \$10 will be prohibited; the Secretary of the Treasury will be directed to coin the silver bullion now in the treasury for the purpose of redeeming the treasury notes issued under the act of 1890, and provision will be made for the redemption of the greenbacks in either gold or silver.

WHY GREENBACKS ARE PLENTY. Paid Out by Banks Because They Are Now Taxable.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.-It is claimed congressional circles that one of the reasons for the appearance of greenbacks large amounts is the act of August, 1894.

"That circulating notes of national bank-ing associations and United States legal tender notes and other notes and certificates of the United States, payable on demand and circulating, or intended to other coin, shall be subject to taxation as laws of any State or Territory, Provided, that any such taxation shall be exercised in the same manner and at the same rate that any such State or Territory shall tax money or currency circulating as money within its jurisdiction "Section 2. That the provisions of this

act shall not be deemed or held to change existing laws in respect of the taxation of national hanking associations It is said by several persons who have pterested themselves in the currency quesion that prior to this act the serves in many banks were held in greenbacks instead of gold because they were nontaxable, but as soon as this law hecame operative in the several States that gold was preferred as reserves and the greenbacks, instead of being hoarded by money lenders and banks were paid out as fast as they came in.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

It Is Now \$947,298,262, and Was Decreased \$1,179,349 Last Month.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.-The monthly statement of the public debt issued from the Treasury Department to-day shows that on Dec. 31, 1895, the public debt, less cash in the treasury, amounted to \$947,-298,252, or a decrease for the month \$1,179,349. The debt is recapitulated as follows: Interest-bearing debt, \$747,361,960; debt on which interest has ceased since maturity, \$1,674,510. Debt bearing no interest, \$376,288,992; aggregate debt, \$1,125,325,462. exclusive of \$568,022,673 in certificates and treasury notes offset by an equal amount of cash in the treasury. The cash in treasury is classified as follows, cents emitted: Gola, \$113,198,707; silver, \$501,460,-554; paper, \$157,567,096. Bonds, disbursing oficers' balances, etc., \$15,352,088; total cash, \$787,578,447, against which there are mand liabilities amounting to \$609,551,447. eaving a cash balance in the treasur \$178,007,200. The treasury to-day lost \$50,000 in gold coin and \$23,000 in bars in exchange for legal tenders, making the true amount of the gold reserve \$62,568,234 The monthly comparative statement of the eccipts and expenditures of the United states shows that during the month of Deember the receipts, cents omitted, aggre gated \$26,288,937, as follows: Custo 69.172; internal revenue, \$12,750,771; misce laneous, \$1,368,993. The expenditures duri the month amounted to \$25,814,317, leaving a surplus for the month of \$474.620. The ares for the first half of the present fi ded Dec. 31, however, show a of \$15,394,707, as against a deficit of \$27,56... ng the first half of last year. As co ared with December, 1834, the receipts fro ms show an increase of a little les ran \$1,000,000, and from internal revenue an increase of about \$3,250,000. For the last

six months the receipts from customs sho an increase over the corresponding peri-last year of \$12,377,690. There was duri

since 1879 is \$35,968,353, with several da ports still wanting. As the total amou

the same months a loss in the returns from

nal revenue of about \$5,275,000.

Treasury records show that int of the United States notes redeem

sue less about \$100,000. has been redeemed and a very large proportion of it again paid out by the treasury during the last seven-

The monthly statement of the Director of the Mint shows coinage at the mints the United States during December, 1895, to have been as follows: Gold, \$8,007, 145; silver, \$75,592; minor goins, \$107,838.

MR. OVERSTREET'S BILL.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 .- As soon as the

He Will Push His Measure Reforming Methods of Paying Pensioners. Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

Total, \$8,280,572

Congress settles down to work in earnest Representative Overstreet will begin an needed reform in the present method of paying pensioners. As stated in the Journal, Mr. Overstreet early in the session introduced a bill mpealing that portion of the existing law which permits the payment of pensions by the pension clerk to the pensioner on demand, and thus amending the law so that all pensions were to be paid entirely by mail. He did not in that bill contemplate the repeal of that provision of the law whereby the oath was administered to the pensioner free of charge by the pension clerk. Since then Mr. Overstreet has introduced a second bill in which the entire section is repealed. Both bills have been referred to the committee on invalid pensions, and he has been invited to appear before the committee to advocate his bill some time next week. The exact day has not yet been decided. Mr. Overstreet is aware that there may be some obfection to repealing that portion of the law which relieves the pensioner from the expense of a notarial fee, but, on the other hand, in a vast number of cases the pensioner spends more money in railroad fare by coming from his home to the office of the pension clerk than he saves by the gratuitous oath before the pension clerk, It would, therefore, be an economy for him to remain at home and pay out a small sum to some local notary rather than journey to the pension agency, with all the expense and subsequent temptation which that visit entails. Mr. Overstreet is, however, not wedded to either bill. He is anxious to correct the present method of paying pensions. He wants the pension money to go where it belongs-to the home of the pensioner-and any bill which will bring about his purpose will suit him. The entire committee is in hearty accord with him, and some remedial legislation is certain of en-

Commissioner of Pensions Lochren on a recent occasion invited Mr. Overstreet to and at the conclusion of Mr. explanation assured him that he agreed with him in his views as to the needed legislation and considered the bills of Mr. Overstreet more likely to bring about these reforms than the measure prepared by Assistant Commissioner of Pensions Revnolds. He told him, too, that the Pension Bureau would offer all its facilities for gathering all the information he desired, and would aid him in every possible way. Until he has finally arranged the pending bill for passage in the House, Mr. Overstreet will not press his bill making pensions, when once granted, a vested right.

COAST DEFENSES.

Senator Squire's Committee to Begin Work at Once. WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.-Senator Squire

has called a meeting of the committee on chief of engineers of the necessary fortifications if the appropria-Flagler, chief of ordnance will also make a statement to he can be heard. The general commanding the army, General Miles, will also make a statement to the committee showing the need of immediate and energetic action by the government. It is desirable to get this matter in an official form as soon as posligence and promptness. Petitions to Con-Charleston. gress are pouring in avianah, Galveston, New Haven and other cities on the Atlantic coast and similar action is being taken in Seattle, Portland, San Francisco and San Diego, on the Pacific coast. Senator Squire introduced his bill at the beginning of the present session prior to the message of the President on the Venezuelan ouestion and the excite ment, which followed. He subsequently reintroduced the same bill containing an additional provision making the whole 287,-000,000 immediately available in the des-

cretion of the President. State Dinner at the White House, WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.-The First state that to the Cabinet-was given by President and Mrs. Cleveland to-night. The mansion was appropriately decorated for the occasion with a profusion of cut flowers and potted plants, while in the vestibule, in front of the main corridor the played a number of guests included the following: The President, the Secretary of State and Mrs. Olney, the Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Carlisle; the Secretary of War and Mrs. Lamont, the Attorney-general and Mrs. Harmon, the Postmaster-general and Wilson, the Secretary of the Navy and Miss Herbert, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture and Miss Morton, the Speaker of the House and Senator and Mrs. Morrill, Senator and Mrs. Hawley, Brice, Representative and Mrs. Catchings. James T. Woodward, Mrs. Charles Fairchild, Mr. Edward R. Bacon, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Stewart, Mr. Frank Thomson and Miss Thomson, Mr. and Mrs. John S.

Frances Walker, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Henderson, Mrs. Micou. Not an Intentional Injury. WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 .- On the representations of the British embassador here, the State Department recently called on the Governor of Louisiana for a statement of the circumstances under which a British subject, James H. Bane, purser of a British steamship, was wounded in the leg during the levee riots in New Orlerans last spring. Governor Foster referred the communication to the Attorney-general of Louisiana, who has made a report which has been transmitted to the State Deapriment, showing substantially that the wounding of Bane was accidental, and that the mob from which the shot was fired was attacking negroes working on the wharves, and had no intention of shooting at any person on the British steamship. This report has

Kennedy, Mrs. Minot, Miss Boardman, Miss

and what turn the case will now take is Exchange of Mail with Mexico.

been supplied to the British embassador,

.WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 .- An important order for the expedition of the mails across the Mexican border was issued to-day b viding for the first exchange of the mails of railway postoffices of the United States and Mexico. This does away with the stopping of the mails at the postoffices of both countries along the line, and effects a saving of twenty-four hours and more in some instances. The mail allowed to pass without interference, however, is restricted to unregistered letters, postal cards and periodical publications, and all postage is required to be prepaid in full. Though this is the first exchange to be made with Mexico, a similar plan has been in operation between this country and Canada practi-cally since the establishment of the rail-

way mail service.

Losing Our Oil Markets. for American petroleum, according to United States Consul Murphy, at Luxemburg, who furnished to the State Department a report on the recently developed oil fields of that country. One well supplied one thousand tons of oil in the first twenty-four hours. and another is ejecting one thousand barrels a day. Meanwhile the use of Russian petroleum is increasing in Germany, where is sold for 1 cent per quart less than

To Prevent Sale of Bonds. WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.-Senator Elkins will try to call up in the Senate to-morrow his resolution offered earlier in the week, to prevent the President from selling United States bonds by contract or at private sale and requiring pr

vited and bonds sold to the highest bil-

possis to be in